

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/611,430

Examiner

Hung T. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

AMBREFF, JOSEPH T.

Art Unit

2636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/5/05 & 1/7/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6-18,23 and 25.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 1/7/05.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>1/7/05</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Don Pelto on Jan. 7, 2005.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In the Drawings:

Figure 10, label --first cart-- at box "102";

Figure 10, label --third cart-- at box "103";

Figure 10, label --security point-- at box "104";

Figure 10, label --trays-- at boxes "106 & 108";

Figure 10, label --second cart-- at box "110";

In the Claims:

Claims 1-5, 19-22 and 24 are cancelled.

Claim 6 has been amended to:

--claim 6 (currently amended) A method comprising:
positioning a first tray cart containing trays at the proximate end of a scanning device
through which objects may be passed, wherein said scanning device comprises a
proximate end and a distal end,
removing a tray from said first tray cart,
passing said tray through said scanning device from said proximate end through to said
distal end,
providing a second tray cart at said distal end of said scanning device,
receiving said tray passed through said scanning device in said second tray cart, and
moving said second cart to said proximate end of said scanning device so that said trays
in said second cart be passed through said scanning device at said proximate end.

Claim 7 (original) The method of claim 6, wherein said scanning device comprises a
device selected from the group consisting of a manual inspection station, an x-ray
machine, a conveyor belt, and a particulate matter sensor.

Claim 8 (original) The method of claim 6, wherein a plurality of said trays comprises nestable trays.

Claim 9 (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said nestable trays further comprise exposed sides capable of displaying advertising.

Claim 10, (original) The method of claim 6, wherein one or more of said trays is adapted to permit substantial visual inspection of a plurality of trays placed thereon.

Claim 11, (original) The method of claim 6, wherein said tray carts are adapted to be rollable.

Claim 12, (original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of repositioning said second tray cart from said distal end to said proximate end.

Claim 13, (original) The method of claim 6, wherein a plurality of said trays are adapted to receive an item selected from the group consisting of a laptop computer, a video camera, a camera, a purse, a coat, a pair shoes, and an umbrella.

Claim 14, (original) The method of claim 6, wherein a plurality of said trays are adapted to receive an item selected from the group consisting of a cell phone, a pager, a wallet, a set of keys, and a personal digital assistant.

Claim 15, (original) The method of claim 6, wherein one or more of said tray carts comprises restraining walls that are substantially transparent.

Claim 16, (original) The method of claim 6, wherein one or more of said tray carts comprises a tray platform further comprising a resilient member.

Claim 17, (original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of providing a third tray cart.

Claim 18, (original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of substituting a third tray cart containing a plurality of trays for said first tray cart.

Claim 23, (original) The method of claim 6, wherein said trays are adapted to display advertising on an interior bottom surface of said trays.

Claim 25, (original) The method of claim 6, wherein said plurality of said trays are adapted to display a tag number.--

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 6-18, 23 & 25 are allowed [renumbered as 1-15].
4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The combination of references of record Brunetti et al., Sansone et al. and McEntee fail to overcome the claimed methods having the step of moving the second cart to the proximate end of the scanning device so that trays in the second cart can be passed through the scanning device at the proximate end.
5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2982. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 5:30pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hofsass, Jeffery can be reached on (571) 272-2981. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hung T. Nguyen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "H".

Examiner: Hung T. Nguyen

Date: Jan. 7, 2005